

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 01751 241417Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SNM-05 SSO-00 /033 W
-----017392 241420Z /47

O R 241340Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6522
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
WHITE HOUSE
DEA WASHDC

S E C R E T BOGOTA 1751

DEPT FOR ARA AND S/NM

WHITE HOUSE FOR BOURNE

DEA FOR BENSINGER

GENEVA FOR MATHEA FALCO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, CO
SUBJECT: LEAK OF NARCOTICS INFORMATION: LETTER FROM DEFENSE MINISTER

REF: BOGOTA 1630

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF LETTER FROM
MINISTER OF DEFENSE WHICH WAS DELIVERED BY AN OFFICER TO THE THE
AMBASSADOR FEBRUARY 23.

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR,
AS YOU ARE AWARE, THERE APPEARED IN THE JAN 19 EDITION OF THE
PARIS NEWSPAPER " LEM MONDE" AN ARTICLE COMMENTING ON A CONFI-
DENTIAL REPORT OF A US SENATE COMMITTEE CONERNING NARCOTICS.

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THE ARTICLE ASSERTED IN PARTICULAR THAT THE INVOLVEMENT OF
OFFICIALS WAS OBSTRUCTING THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THIS TYPE
OF CRIME AND ALSO INDICATED THAT THIS COMMITTEE HAD DEL-
IVERED TO THE COLOMBIAN CHIEF OF STATE A LIST OF THE
PERSONS IMPLICATED, AMONG WHICH THERE APPEARED THE NAME
OF THE UNDERSIGNED MINISTER OF DEFENSE.

THIS REPORT ORIGINATING IN THE NEWSPAPER "LE MONDE" WAS WIDELY DISSEMINATED BY THE COLOMBIAN PRESS, ESPECIALLY IN THE NEWSPAPERS "LA REPUBLICA," "EL COLOMBIANO," "VANGUARDIA LIBERAL," "EL BOGOTANO," AND IN THE MAGAZINE "ALTERNATIVA."

SINCE THE PUBLISHED ARTICLES TO WHICH I AM REFERRING ARE BASED, ACCORDING TO THE NEWSPAPER "LE MONDE", ON THE OFFICIAL USG (SENATORIAL COMMITTEE) REPORT AND SINCE THE AMERICAN EMBASSY HAS SO FAR NOT DENIED THEM, I WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO YOU, MR. AMBASSADOR, IF YOU WOULD ADVISE ME OF THE CHARGE OR CHARGES THAT MAY EXIST AGAINST THE UNDERSIGNED MINISTER SINCE I HAVE THE OBLIGATION AND THE RIGHT TO INFORM COLOMBIAN PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT MY PERFORMANCE ESPECIALLY IN CASES LIKE THIS WHICH CONSTITUTE FLAGRANT DEFAMATIONS WHICH AFFECT THE GOVT OF WHICH I FORM A PART AND WHICH ALSO IMPUGN THE DIGNITY AND RESPECT THAT BOTH MY FAMILY AND I MERIT. YOURS SINCERELY, GENERAL ABRAHAM VARON VALENCIA. END TEXT.

2. THE MINISTER IS OBVIOUSLY JUMPING THE GUN ON THE SCENARIO DESCRIBED IN REFTEL. WOULD APPRECIATE INSTRUCTIONS. ASECIO

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NARCOTICS, DRUG TRAFFIC, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, SECURITY LEAKS, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BOGOTA01751
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780086-0305
Format: TEL
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780219/aaaaaphv.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bcd7dad0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BOGOTA 1630
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3493152
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEAK OF NARCOTICS INFORMATION: LETTER FROM DEFENSE MINISTER
TAGS: SNAR, CO, US, (VARON VALENCIA, ABRAHAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bcd7dad0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
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